



506.41066X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

MAY 22 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Applicant: SAITOH et al
Serial No.: 10/019,957
Filed: January 7, 2002
For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING HYDROXYLATED FATTY
ACIDS AND δ -LACTONES
Group: 1651
Examiner: Saucier

#8
199
5/28/03

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

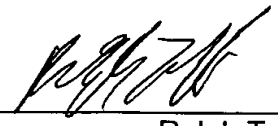
May 20, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 21, 2003, Applicants hereby elect **Group III, Claims 12 -45 and 54 - 81**, drawn to a second process for producing a δ -lactone from an (n-6)-ene fatty acid using a microbe.

Kindly charge any additional fees due, or credit overpayment of fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (506.41066X00).

Respectfully submitted,
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS



Ralph T. Webb
Reg. No. 33,047

RTW/RTW
(703)312-6600